INCREASE GROSS SUPPLY OF BEEF

Kansas Expert Recommends Practice of Producing and Fattening Young Animals.

PASTURE OF BIG IMPORTANCE

Experiment Station Produced Gain With Calves With 35 Per Cent Less Grain Than It Required With Big Steers.

A more general practice of producing and fattening baby beef will increase the gross beef supply of the country and add to the profit of the cattle producer and feeder, Dr. C. W. McCampbell of the agricultural college believes. A baby beef is a steer or heifer that is fat and ready for the market at the age of twelve to fourteen months, weighing from 750 to 900 pounds each.

Pasture Is Limiting Factor.

"Pasture is the limiting factor in beef production," Doctor McCampbell says. "A baby beef grazes but one

Baby Beef Production Increases Meat Supply and Reduces Production Costs.

season, and that only as a calf while he is suckling his mother. If he were carried over and marketed off of grass as a three-year-old, as is so often done, he replaces a cow that might have been producing a baby calf each of the three seasons this steer was grazing beyond the age of baby beef.

"The average three-year-old steer represents a gross selling weight of less than 1,200 pounds. The three baby beeves that might have been produced by the cow he replaced during the three grazing seasons he was developing a gross weight of 1,200 pounds would represent a gross selling weight of 2,400 pounds of beef.

Increases Beef Supply.

"Baby beef production not only increases the beef supply—it also reduces beef production costs. Last year the Kansas experiment station fed a group of calves exactly the same ration. This ration consisted of corn, linseed oil meal, alfalfa hay, and silage. It required 35 per cent less grain and 20 per cent less roughage to produce gain on the calves than it did on the big steers, and the calves marketed as baby beeves showed a net return of $37 a head more than the big steers.

CARING FOR EXPOSED PARTS

All Wounds Should Be Well Painted With White Lead—Corrosive Sublimate Helps.

Where large limbs must be sawed off, or there are cankers or dead patches on tree trunks, the exposed parts should be well painted over with white lead. A teaspoonful of corrosive sublimate well mixed into a quart of white lead, with just a little oil to thin, makes a good paint and disinfectant. Do not paint any of the live portion of bark, and if paint is inclined to run throw some dust on to take up the surplus. Any dead bark on tree shanks should be cut out before painting. If trees have been pruned to a high head or the trunks are exposed to the sun, it will be a big help to wrap these with one or two thicknesses of burlap or gunnysack, after painting the affected parts, tying loosely to lower limbs with cloth strings.

As a rule most of the larger dead limbs are found on the south side of the tree, which leaves it more exposed than before. Encourage a new growth to take place of large limbs cut out. If possible, and allow future trees you may plant to head low.

TESTS SHOW MUCH SOUR SOIL

Only One Piece of Land in Illinois County Found to Be Sweet—Legumes Were Cause.

In soil testing meetings held recently by the county agricultural agent of Boone county, Ill., to which each farmer attending was asked to bring several samples of soil from his farm, only one farm showed that the soil was sweet, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture. The owner of this farm stated that he has been growing a large amount of clover, sweet clover, and alfalfa.

BURN ALL DEAD FRUIT TREES

Especial Attention Should Be Given to Those Killed by Insects and Disease.

Trees that have died during the year, especially if they have been killed by borers, should be removed and burned this winter. If left until until spring insects will lay eggs in healthy trees and perhaps cause their destruction.

To Prevent Sunscald.

Be sure the southwest side of the young apple or shade tree is covered to protect it from sunscald this winter. Wire, boards, paper or corn fodder are good materials to use.

Buy Seeds Near Home.

When buying seed of any kind it is well not to go too far away from home for it.

Marketing Farm Crops.

Market hay and grain through live stock.

Catechism on Birds

What are some of the birds that do more good than harm? Robin, screech owl, chipping sparrow, brown thrush, woodpecker, sparrow hawk, meadow lark, blackbird, bluebird, grosbeak, redbird, wren, Swainson's hawk, quail, swift, swallow, dove, mocking bird and others.

2. What birds do more harm than good? Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk and goshawk.

3. What hawks are considered more useful than harmful? Marsh hawk, sparrow hawk, Swainson's hawk and night hawk.

4. What hawks may be called chicken hawks? The Cooper's hawk and the sharp-shinned hawk. The latter usually attacks small chickens.

5. What birds are there differences of opinion about as to whether they do more good than harm? Catbird, crow, bluejay, belted kingfisher. The English sparrow is a great nuisance.

PLAIN CONCRETE FOR FARM USE IN FAVOR

Various Details Treated by Engineer in Bulletin.

Material of Great Strength Is Uneconomical if Weaker Mixture Will Serve Purpose—Consider Cost of Labor.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The requirements of good concrete and the making and placing of plain concrete according to the best practice, is discussed in Farmers' Bulletin 1279, "Plain Concrete for Farm Use," by T. A. Miller, agricultural engineer, just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The bulletin treats also of quality, proportions and quantities of material required, forms, mixing, placing, curing, expansion joints, surface finish, lintels, concrete exposed to fire, and watertight concrete.

Rarely can a farm be found on which concrete is not used for some purpose such as foundations, walks, floors, walls, springs and wells, fence posts, silos, dams, septic tanks, and water and feeding troughs. Generally something is known as to the mixing of concrete, but it is not always that a concrete of the desired quality is secured, or if secured, that it has been done in the most economical way. A concrete of great strength is uneconomical if a weaker mixture will serve and a cheap or weak concrete is costly if it does not fulfill all requirements.

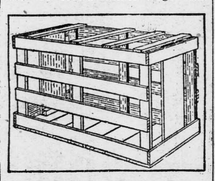
The cost of concrete depends not only upon the price of the materials and labor, but also upon the judicious use of the two. Lack of foresight in locating the mixing plant, in the design of forms and in planning the successive operations may cause unnecessary expense, while neglect of any one of the precautions which should be observed is likely to result in unsatisfactory work.

Copies of the bulletin may be had free by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

SHIPPING CRATE FOR SWINE

Device Shown in Illustration Is Easily Made and Will Give Good Satisfaction.

The hog crate shown in the accompanying illustration can be made by anyone at a small expense. The size will have to be varied according to the size of the hog to be shipped, and must be several inches longer and



Inexpensive Hog Crate.

enough wider so that the hog can lie down. Care must be taken that the hog cannot get its legs fast in the lower cracks and that no nails project to injure the hog or those that handle the crates.

DAIRY COWS MOST SENSITIVE

Animals Must Be Provided With Suitable Shelter If Good Milk Flow Is Expected.

Milk cows especially should have good shelter if a good flow of milk is to be produced, and milking cows is more profitable now than during the war when feed was so high. Hogs, too, are very sensitive to cold storms and require a dry, well-ventilated place if the most profitable gains are to be made. Their sleeping quarters must be kept well bedded or they will seek shelter elsewhere, even if it be outside. If they can find straw or other litter they will crawl into that and sleep even if cold and damp there. They prefer this to a bare floor or the ground.

Rapid Growing Norway Poplar.

Norway poplar is a quick growing tree and gives shade quickly, but a good, well-grown, hard maple, elm or hackberry lasts longer and becomes prettier as it grows older.

Difficult Combination.

Scrub cattle can be supported profitably only when there is cheap food, cheap land, cheap labor and good markets. And we defy anybody to find that combination.

Cutting Apple Cions.

Apple cions for next season's use should be cut and put in a cool cellar in sawdust or other material which will keep them from drying out or growing.

Value of Spraying.

The value of spraying of fruit trees should be in evidence now. Fruits should be free of insects and foliage clean if a good job of spraying was done.

Keep cows up on raw, rainy days.

Ribbons Are in the Limelight

Ribbons have come into the limelight in fashion, observes a correspondent in the New York Times. There is hardly a costume without a display of colorful ribbon. The finish, the completion, the end and ambition of every gown, cloak and hat seems to be some bright spot of ribbon. It may be only a touch, a whole patch or a section composed of ribbons. But ribbons there are in quantity, and each of them seems more lovely than the last.

Why it has never occurred to designers in such numbers to use ribbon as decorative material for costumes in general is a mystery. Once they started on the ribbon way, the path seemed simple and straight. It developed as it was pursued with astonishing activity. Ribbons bloomed upon frocks with more and more beauty, and finally they have come to be almost a necessity.

Ribbons are used for trimming, for edging, for facings. They are used to finish the making of a gown. In some instances they almost constitute a frock, for the foundation is so unimportant and plain that when the ribbons are added they become the whole spirit of the frock.

On the Street Dress.

A street dress shows a series of loops of narrow ribbon strung all the way down the side of the skirt, where it opens to allow one to let one's self into the gown. This succession of loops wends its way down that side of the skirt where the dress opens and at the same time creates a section of trimming which, were it absent, would limit the effect the gown was destined to create. After that, the whole of the way round the gown is bound with the same ribbon, and the whole effect is one of studied design which is meant to place the frock in the fore ranks of fashion as one of the leading characters in the drama of style.

The hat worn with this costume is an illustration of the way that ribbon can be used for a little turban. It is drawn tightly about the head and shapes itself to the contour of the face. Then it is ended by a bow that sags down over one side of the head and touches the neckline. The hat is made of two tones of gray taffeta ribbon and the bow hangs down to the grayness of the costume, which is made of a combination of duvetine in light gray and ribbon bow appliques of a darker shade of gray corresponding with the darkest tone used in the making of the hat. The shoes worn with this costume are made of gray suede and worn with a darker tone of gray stockings that blend with the

Ribbon Trimming Reaches Down the Side of Street Frock Made of Duvetine.

whole makeup of the costume in the most salubrious manner.

All sorts of accessories include ribbon in either its wide or its narrow sense. These are the cubochons of brilliantly colored roses which adorn the waist lines of evening dresses and have long streamers of the narrow ribbons.

There are ribbon rosettes used for the adornment of waistlines of evening and afternoon gowns, and there are the streamers that fly from them as the trimming for the skirts of evening dresses which, without them, would not register in the forum of fashion to any great degree.

Blouses Made of Ribbon.

There are whole blouses made of ribbons, and others which use ribbon alone as their trimming, conforming the color and the weave of the ribbon to the material. There is a blouse made of taupe crepe de chine and trimmed with bars of ribbon formed from two tones of taupe grosgrain ribbon. One piece is turned under the other piece until the arrangement forms a blockwork of differing tones of the same color, and, in the end, there is an edging which provides a trimming varying enough from the surface of the silk to set it off. In other words, the trimming and the material of the blouse blend together to form a harmonious whole, which is highly effective when combined with the skirt of a suit, or a costume suit, no matter how they may be gathered together.

There are dresses made entirely of ribbon. Some of these are sewn together from wide strips of brocaded or plain ribbons, and others use a portion of tulle to make up the foundation which happens to have ribbon for an accessory. There is a frock, for instance, which has a full tulle skirt of green made in many layers. One shade is superimposed upon another, and the whole makes a subtle bit of coloring accentuated by the band of wide gold and green brocaded ribbon which goes to make up the bodice arrangement. No matter if there are strings of brilliants over the shoulders to constitute the straps which

Contrasting Tones of Grosgrain Ribbon Trim Taupe Crepe de Chine Blouse.

hold the gown in place, there are interesting features of the ribbon against the tulle which make up the gown as a creation.

Color has everything to do with modern fashions. Without it there is no claim to style or attractiveness. Often the strip of ribbon added to a gown will help to give that touch of colorfulness without which the frock would count as nothing. Under the end of a broad sleeve there can be applied for edging the slightest bit of ribbon, and a strain of color will be added to keep the whole gown in tone. The absence of that same bit of ribbon would serve to throw back the gown into obscurity, with no right to class itself among the present colorful elements of style.

Ribbons are used for streamers and for bows and sashes, and, twisted, they are used for girdles. They are gathered together in different colors or they are used in one color only and in varying widths. But in every instance everything has been done to bring them into the fore rank of fashions.

Used for Linings.

Ribbons are used in the most remarkable ways for linings. In some instances they are held together to form the whole lining of an evening wrap. The wrap itself may be of the least colorful of velvet—a dull purple or a dark blue or a red that is very dark. The lining discloses brilliance. There is possibly a brocaded ribbon with all the colors of the rainbow made to form the lining of the darker velvet wrap. And then, possibly, there is a collar, which is made of the same material as the lining and which forms a colorful and brilliant frame about the face.

There was one evening wrap of ermine lined with silver ribbon alternated with black. The silver was as wide as four or five inches, and the black was not more than an inch or two, but the two were fastened together so that they formed a series of stripes running up and down on the lining, forming the reverse side of a handsome wrap that only carried out the feeling of the design by showing its lining against the clear whiteness of the ermine that formed the outside.

Little ribbons are used for the edgings of chiffon linings. They are held around the edges of the coat and tucked into the interstices of the lining so that they will show the divergence of the line and the places where the fullness of the lining happens to take on a new expression for itself.

All around the edges of a blue and silver chiffon lining for a black lynx wrap there was fastened a tiny ribbon not more than a quarter of an inch in width. It was black as to its background, and there was woven into the narrowness of its surface a little blue-green conventionalized figure that helped to set off the weave of the ribbon. All the way around the edge this narrow ribbon took its way, then traced a line between the deep shirred yoke of the lining and the skirt section of the wrap. At intervals, even in the skirt, there were sections of the ribbon inset to show how intricately the fullness of the ribbon was handled. In the end, the ribbon, as it was placed, became the most interesting feature of the lining.

THE BLENDING OF SEVERAL HUES

Different Fabrics and Different Colors Mingle in Way to Cause Interesting Study.

The effect of various fabrics upon different colors is an interesting study and a point that must be considered in blending several hues. Velvet of fine quality, for example, seems to have a sort of undertone of silver, due to the way in which the tiny threads of silky nap catch and reflect the light. It therefore lightens a quiet shade, like one of the unobtrusive tones of brown, and gives it a life and sparkle that the same shade would lack in a dull finished fabric such as serge. On the other hand,

Bloused Coat.

Bloused coats are very smart with the band low on the hips. Contrary to what one would expect, these are very becoming to the slightly stout figure and give an illusion of slenderness.

velvet has the power of softening and toning down some of the harder colors, such as bright blue or magenta, so that they seem softer and more gracious. This flattering quality of velvet makes it helpful to the figure that is a shade too tall no less than to the one that is confessedly rotund. It mitigates the angles of the too-slender woman and conceals equally well the extra weight of her sister.

Amber-Colored Velvet.

Amber-colored velvet is used to make one of the most lovely evening frocks of the season. The sleeves are formed of a circle of amber held close to the arm above the elbow and held in place by strands of amber from the shoulder.

Tunic Blouses.

Gold and cocoa shades are mentioned frequently in connection with fashionable frocks. They are particularly liked for tunic blouses to wear with dark skirts.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR JANUARY 14

JESUS TEACHING HUMILITY

LESSON TEXT—Luke 14:4-14.
GOLDEN TEXT—God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. —I Peter 5:5.
REFERENCE MATERIAL—John 13:1-17; Phil. 2:5-11.
PRIMARY TOPIC—The Story of a Great Dinner.
JUNIOR TOPIC—Teaching Courtesy.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC —Others.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC —The Spirit of Christian Service.

I. Jesus Dines With a Pharisee (v. 1).

Jesus entered freely into the common social customs of the day. We see Him at a wedding, a dinner party, in the home of sickness, and at a funeral. He was truly a man among men. He was unlike John the Baptist in this respect. The Christian's influence is best when mingling with his fellowmen in all right relations and positions in life, even though selfish and evil-minded persons are found among them. This does not mean that he should be a partaker of their evil deeds. Jesus in thus moving in all circles of human society showed the divine sympathy. While Jesus was in society he was not of it. So should the Christian be. Jesus was in a company outwardly courteous but inwardly hostile. Doubtless the motive of the invitation was to find an occasion against Him. This is implied in the statement "they watched Him."

II. Jesus Healing a Dropsical Man (vv. 2-6).

1. Why This Man Was Present (v.2). There is no way of absolutely determining it, but likely it was part of a plot of the Pharisees to trap Jesus by getting Him to violate the Sabbath rules.

2. Jesus' Question (v. 3). Jesus' question was an answer to the thoughts of the lawyers and Pharisees who were watching Him, for they had not spoken. Before healing this man He submitted the case to their judgment. They were free on the Sabbath day to hold a feast where their selfish pride and vanity could be displayed, but they were horrified that a fellow-man should be healed on the Sabbath. They were silent because their consciences made them ashamed of their heartlessness.

3. Healing the Man (v. 4). While they were in a state of embarrassment Jesus healed the man and let him go.

4. Jesus Rebuked Them (vv. 5, 6). He laid bare their hypocrisy by showing them that their willingness to show mercy to a beast on the Sabbath should induce them to regard as not sinful to relieve a human being of distress on the Sabbath. They were again silent, for they perceived their inconsistency and inhumanity.

III. Jesus Rebukes Selfish Ambition (vv. 7-10).

1. The Occasion (v. 7). He observed that the guests while taking their places at the table chose the best seats for themselves. This is still true of men and women. In the railway cars, hotels, street cars, etc., they scramble for the best places. In the homes even members of the same family will try to get the best food, etc.

2. Instruction Given (vv. 8-11). When bidden to a feast, take the lowest place lest you suffer the humiliation of being asked to take a lower seat. This is more than a lesson on courtesy or table manners; it is a severe rebuke of that selfishness which fills the human heart, causing it to seek to be ministered to instead of ministering to others. Unselfishness will express itself in humbly taking the lowest place, esteeming others better than ourselves. The fundamental principle of the philosophy governing the moral world, Jesus declares to be: "Whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

IV. The True Motive in Deeds of Charity (vv. 12-14).

Jesus takes advantage of this social occasion to teach a great principle. The Jews, like many of the rich today, made social dinner occasions for display. They invited only those whose wealth would enable them to recompense them by inviting them in return. Jesus took note of the selfishness thus displayed and set forth to them the right principle, namely, that they should extend their hospitality to the poor and afflicted. All charitable deeds should be done with unselfish motives. Jesus assured them that compensation would be made at the resurrection of the just. This does not mean that friends and neighbors of certain rank should never exchange pleasant hospitalities. Wealth should be used to confer blessings upon the poor and needy instead of ministering to the pride and vanity of the possessor.

Whose Duty?

A newspaper man was telling how he got into city mission work. "One Sunday afternoon I came upon that forsaken section, and Monday morning I sat down to my typewriter to write my minister a hot letter about the necessity of sending some one down there to help. When I came to read my letter I found I had left out the words 'some one.' Then the question arose, 'Why should I ask him to send some one, when I am the chap who knows what ought to be done?' Well, I took my pen and wrote 'me' for the missing words and that settled it."—Layman's Service Bulletin.

Faith, Hope and God.

Let us go forward with hope. To go forward with hope means to go forward in faith. No faith means no God. No God means no hope. With faith, and hope, and God we shall have few uncertainties, and diminished perplexities. With faith and hope we are not free from cares and duties and responsibilities, but we are set free to meet and fulfill them.

How Churches Grow.

Once there was a Chinese laundry. Then it became a store. Then it became a church. For ten years it served in this capacity, and from it has come a group of 47 communicants and 100 children who, this year, have acquired their own new building, St. Philip's chapel, New Orleans.

The Earnest of the Spirit.

Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. —II Corinthians 5:5.

The KITCHEN CABINET

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"One's personal enjoyment is a very small thing, but one's personal happiness is a very important thing. Those only are happy who have their minds fixed on some object rather than their own happiness."

TEMPTING DISHES

Apples are so common and so generally found in any market that we are apt to slight and undervalue them. There is no more tempting garnish for a luncheon dish or for dinner than a rosy-cheeked stewed or baked apple on the dinner plate with the roast. These are prepared by cooking them gently until tender with the skins left on or partly removed to keep them from bursting. When tender, carefully remove the red skins (of course they should be of the red-skinned variety) and scrape the red with a knife or spoon from the inside of the skin. Paint it back on the cheek of the apple and it makes the attractive "apple in bloom."

Apple Souffle.—Core, peel and stew four tart apples in just enough water to prevent burning. Pass through a sieve. Put one tablespoonful of butter in a saucepan, add four tablespoonfuls of cornstarch and one tablespoonful of flour, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of salt, four tablespoonfuls of cold water, stir and cook until clear. Add one cupful of hot apple sauce sweetened to taste and one teaspoonful of lemon juice. Remove from the fire, add three well-beaten eggs and cut and fold in the stiffly beaten whites and pour into a well-buttered baking dish; bake until puffed and a delicate brown; serve at once.

Split Pea Soup.—Take one pint of dry legumes, one onion, one-half head of celery, three tablespoonfuls of flour, the same of butter, one-half can of strained tomato and one cupful of cream. Soak the peas over night, drain and simmer until tender, stirring often. When the peas are tender, fry the onion until tender, also the celery cut fine, in a little beef fat. Add to the soup and cook until smooth. Put through a sieve, add the butter and flour cooked until smooth, the tomato and the cream. Serve hot with toasted wafers.

Date Muffins.—Cream one-third of a cupful of butter with one-fourth of a cupful of milk, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of salt. Mix two teaspoonfuls of baking powder into two cupfuls of flour; mix all together, beat well and add one-fourth of a pound of chopped dates. Bake in gem pans in a moderate oven.

Fish Hash.—Put hot, salted, cooked potatoes through a ricer, add one egg to a pint of the potatoes, two tablespoonfuls of butter and salt and pepper to season. Beat well and add an equal quantity of flaked fish. Fry in bacon fat and serve garnished with parsley.

To preserve a friend three things are necessary: To honor him present, praise him absent and assist him in his necessities.—Italian Saying.

GOOD THINGS WE LIKE TO TRY

A delicious cake to serve on "special occasions" is the following:

Fruit Layer Cake.—Cream one cupful of butter, add two cupfuls of sugar, six eggs beaten well, one cupful of milk, two and one-half cupfuls of flour, one teaspoonful of vanilla, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder. The yolks of the eggs if added first and the whites stiffly beaten folded in at the last make a very delicate cake. Bake in layers.

Fruit Filling.—Boil two cupfuls of sugar until it threads and pour slowly over three stiffly-beaten whites of eggs, beat well, add one-half cupful of citron finely shredded, one-half cupful of figs, one cupful of raisins chopped, one pound of pineapple and chopped almonds. Spread between the layers and on top.

Spanish Bernoda.—Wash, skin and cut into dice two pounds of fresh fish, bass or halibut, or any fish in season. Have ready five large potatoes sliced, two onions sliced, one-half a can of tomatoes and a few spoonfuls of cat-sup. Arrange in a deep baking dish in layers, first the fish, then the potatoes, next the onions, and last the tomatoes; pour over the catsup and sprinkle with two tablespoonfuls of butter cut into bits. Add salt to season and bake three hours, well-covered.

Baked Bananas With Sultana Sauce.—Cook one-half cupful of sultana raisins in one and one-half cupfuls of boiling water for thirty minutes. Sift together one-half cupful of sugar, two teaspoonfuls of cornstarch, then add the raisins and water, of which there should be a cupful. Boil six minutes, add one teaspoonful each of lemon juice and vanilla and serve poured around the baked bananas.

Seafoam.—Dissolve two cupfuls of granulated sugar in one-half cupful of hot water, then add one-half cupful of white corn sirup and boil until a little dropped into cold water will make a hard ball. Have the whites of two eggs beaten until stiff, pour over them the boiling sirup very slowly, beating all the while. Add vanilla and nuts and when stiff drop by spoonfuls on a buttered sheet.

Nellie Maxwell

Ancient Custom.

The salutation of English-speaking races of shaking hands is very ancient. It is mentioned by Homer, Aristophanes and by Virgil. As the confirmation of a bargain it appears in II Kings 10:15. Today it is confined to western races.

Advantage in Secrecy.

Secrecy has many advantages, for when you tell a man at once and straightforwardly the purpose of any object, he fancies there is nothing in it.—Goethe.

No Telling.

"Wombat tells me he expects to get rich."

"Well he has high hopes, but I dunno."

"What's his game?"

"He has the cigarette privilege in a girls' hotel."

Let Her Guard Go.

Slim Smith Girl—I understand you stopped associating with that Princeton guard.

Stout Smith Girl—Yes; he couldn't hold me.—Yale Record.

Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

MARY GRAHAM BONNER
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OTTER PLAYTIME

"What a Foolish Question."

"Oswald Otter, do you want to play?" asked Oliver Otter.

"Of course," said Oswald Otter. "What a foolish question that is," he added. "As though I wouldn't want to play!

"Dear me, dear me, did I ever hear of anything so funny? Why it makes me smile an otter's smile and laugh an otter's laugh."

"Well," said Oliver, "I did not mean it as such a foolish question as it sounded.

"I simply meant to ask you if you wanted to play now."

"That is a foolish question too," said Oswald. "To be sure, I want to play now. I am always ready to play.

"I can't imagine any creature more foolish than one who doesn't want to play."

"Neither can I," said Oliver.

"Then why do you ask such foolish questions?" inquired Oswald.

"I didn't mean to give you the idea that I thought you were not fond of playing but I wanted to count the number of otters who would join in the game.

"We're going to have a sliding game."

"Did any otter refuse?" asked Oswald.

"No," said Oliver.

"We're not much like our relatives, the Mink family," said Oswald.

"They aren't gentle and playful as we are, and we only eat fish. They will eat meat."

"The Weasel," said Oliver, "is also our cousin. He is a great hunter, and he is dangerous to the wood people. We are not as he is.

"We would not hunt anything and we would not hurt anything. Of course fish is what we like and we catch fish and eat them. That is our way.

"We will not change.

"And we are kindly and friendly and make pleasant pets. But let us not talk now, for the others are joining the frolic."

And at that the other otters came from all around. They wore their beautiful fur suits and looked very handsome.

Then they began to play.

Oliver took the lead and Oswald followed. He coasted down the bank on his tummy—right into the river below.

Then Oswald did the same, and so did every other otter. What a sight it was!

Otter after otter followed each other down the slide.

And such fun as they had. They laughed in their little barking way and they seemed so gentle and happy and gay.

One little otter they called Mag-Tag. The other's real name was Maggie and she was a little younger than some of the others.

She wanted to play with the older otters too and she followed wherever they went.

One day one of the otters, seeing her following, had said to another otter:

"Well, there comes little Mag-Tag, she is always tagging after us!"

And so the name stuck to her.

But they were all so fond of Mag-Tag that the name became a pet name, and Mag-Tag would feel actually hurt if anyone called her Maggie.

So Mag-Tag came along for the sliding party this time, too. And she followed the rest of them in their playing.

What a good time she had and how nice the others were to her. They did not treat her as a baby, though she was younger.

"Overshoes, Too."

"I heard some one talking today," said Mag-Tag. "They did not know I was hearing. They were talking of a little Pekingese dog—a dog from China, I believe.

"And this dog has a jacket when he goes out and overshoes, too, for each of his four feet.

"But this was the funniest of all: He wears a flannel nightie when he goes to bed, to keep off the lumbago, which is some kind of stiffness and cold.

"He is a cranky little dog, too, I heard; but, dear me, when I heard of his even wearing a flannel nightie I thought to myself that I would not be surprised to hear of his taking a muff with him when he went walking."

"Oh, dear, oh, dear!" said another otter, "let's not talk of furs or muffs. They make me quite, quite nervous to think about."

So the otters began playing again, and were as cheery as cheery could be.

Dorothy Was Puzzled.

"Mamma," said little Dorothy, who was looking at the pictures in a Sunday school book, "how do the angels get their night gowns on over their wings?"

Easy.

Teacher—Sammy, give me a sentence containing the word "anthracite."

Sammy (who speaks with a lisp)—We had a big family party lath week and you ought to have heard my aunt rethite.

Applied Science.

"There's one thing about this germ theory I like," remarked Senator Sorghum.

"What's that?"

"It gives a candidate a good excuse for not shaking hands indiscriminately and kissing all the children."

Ahead of Time.

"Mother," said Bobby, coming in from play, "isn't it lunch time yet?"

"No, dear, it's only eleven o'clock."

"Then my stummick must be an hour fast."—Boston Transcript.

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Pays

JOB WORK A SPECIALTY

VOL. XXXVI. NO. 1.

FRENCH ARMY TAKES CONTROL

Army Enters City of Essen With No Opposition

SLIGHT DISORDER CRUSHED

Municipal Officials Assure French Commander Of Sincere Co-operation And Troops Are Withdrawn To Outskirts.

Berlin.—The French army of occupation entered the Ruhr Valley without encountering opposition and took possession of the great German industrial city of Essen.

General Degoutte, French military commander in the Ruhr Valley, issued a proclamation announcing that all German laws will remain in force and requesting all officials to continue at their duties.

On being assured by the Burgomaster of Essen of the co-operation of the municipal officials, the French commander withdrew most of his troops to the outskirts.

German police acted vigorously to stop disturbance started by ruffians, but the appearance of French uniforms quickly stopped the outbreak.

The Berlin protest presented to the Powers declares that Germany will not meet violence with violence nor withdraw from Germany treaty. As long as the occupation continues, the Berlin protest says, Germany is not in position to make actual reparations to the occupying Powers.

German labor unions, representing a membership of 15,000,000, decided on a general one-hour strike as protest against French occupation.

Chancellor Cuno will confer with the Premier of the Federated States to decide upon next steps of the German Government to meet the new economic situation.

The order to return to America caused consternation among the American soldiers in Coblenz and their German wives and sweethearts. The news was given to them while at a dance.

WOULD BAN SUNDAY FUNERALS.

Akron (Ohio) Ministerial Association Urges Action.

Akron, Ohio. — Recommendation that cemeteries be closed to funerals on Sundays has been made to trustees of all burial grounds in this city by the Summit County Ministerial Association. A resolution protesting against the practice of permitting funerals on Sunday was unanimously adopted.

Discussing the resolution several clergymen pointed out that Sunday funerals were a hardship upon the clergy as well as upon undertakers and gravediggers. Agitation was started several weeks ago when a group of gravediggers threatened to refuse to dig graves on Sunday.

$45,000,000 TO SOLDIERS.

Amendment To State Constitution Is Proposed By Assemblyman.

Albany.—With the approval, it is understood, of the Republican leaders in the lower house, Assemblyman Ezra A. Barnes, representing Oswego county, has introduced an amendment to the State constitution providing for a $45,000,000 bonus for veterans of the World War.

The Court of Appaels, when the Republican Legislature appropriated such a sum two years ago held that the proposed bonus was unconstitutional. Governor Smith, in his message to the legislature, recommended that the lawmakers adopt a resolution paving the way for the bonus.

DEPUTY SAVED BY WATCH STEM

Timepiece Deflects Bullet Fired By Rum-Crazed Negro.

Washington. — The stem of his watch, by deflecting a bullet fired by a liquor-crazed negro, saved the life of United States Deputy Marshal Quinane here.

As the deputy marshal was on his way home, the negro accosted him and became enraged when Quinane refused to drink some of his bootleg whisky.

After a scuffle the negro fired directly at Quinane's heart. The bullet struck the watch stem and lodged in his shoulder. The negro was captured.

PORK BARREL BILL GIVEN UP.

Fernald And Langley Make Announcement.

Washington. — Announcement that there will be no omnibus public building bill at this session of Congress was made by Senator Fernald, Republican, Maine, and Representative Langley, Republican, Kentucky, chairmen of the Senate and House Public Buildings Committee, after a conference with President Harding.

The President and Republican leaders in Congress, it was said, believe that the Treasury's condition does not make possible a general public buildings bill.

TWINS MARRY BROTHERS.

West Virginia Girl, 16, Wed Basil Bright, 19, And Lott Bright, 27.

Clarksburg, W. Va.—The unusual double marriage of twin sisters, 16 years of age, to brothers, took place here at the home of the bride's parents.

Miss Adaline Booth became the bride of Basil Bright, 19, and Miss Angeline Booth was married to James Lott Bright, 27. The girls are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Booth, of

Full Text of U. S.

Washington.— the Ruhr by the F the State Departm

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